



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CITY OF CANTON PROPOSES TO IMPROVE THE
INTERSECTION OF FULTON ROAD NW AND PARK DRIVE NW
IN THE CITY OF CANTON, STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

CANTON, Ohio – The City of Canton has proposed to improve the intersection of Fulton Road (State Route 687) and Park Drive (Stadium Park Drive) in the City of Canton, Stark County, Ohio. The project proposes to widen the Fulton Road/Park Drive intersection to add turning lanes on Park Drive north and south of Fulton Road and install a new traffic control signal. All pavements within the project limits will be reconstructed and widened with new concrete curbing, ADA compliant curb ramps, street lighting and new storm drainage. A new 10-ft sidewalk will be installed along Park Drive south of Fulton Road. No right-of-way acquisition is required for the project.

The proposed transportation improvement will not result in adverse impacts to any ecological or cultural resources or other environmental resources. In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (codified as 36 CFR 800), information regarding the presence of any known cultural resources in the vicinity of the project is requested. Cultural resources include prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, historic bridges, historic buildings, sites, and districts.

Park Drive extends south through Stadium Park, which is owned by the City of Canton. Use of federal funds subjects the proposed undertaking to the requirements of Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation (DOT) Act of 1966. This federal law protects publicly owned parks, recreation areas, wildlife and waterfowl refuges and public or privately-owned historical resources. Due to the scope of the proposed undertaking and the presence of Section 4(f) property (Stadium Park), measures to minimize harm have been developed that creates a *de minimis* impact (as defined in 23 CFR 774.17) on the property (Stadium Park). Applying a *de minimis* determination allows for all possible planning to minimize harm by reducing the impacts on the Section 4(f) property. A *de minimis* impact is one that will not adversely affect the features, attributes, or activities qualifying the Section 4(f) property (Constitution Park) for protection.

Use of land from Stadium Park will not change ownership and the area used will be restored to a condition at least as good as or better than existing prior to construction activities. Access to park facilities will be maintained at all times during duration of construction activities. The proposed undertaking includes all possible planning to minimize harm to the Section 4(f) property. The primary functions and components of the recreational area will not be substantively impaired by the proposed undertaking. The proposed transportation improvement will not impair the intended use or function of designated recreational activities associated with Stadium Park, in whole or in part. There will be no anticipated permanent adverse physical impacts or permanent interference with the activities or use of the recreation areas within Stadium Park. The proposed scope of work is minor in nature and the magnitude of change to the Section 4(f) property is minimal and the assessment of impacts and proposed mitigation, in regards to maintaining access and safety, are considered to be reasonable and acceptable.

The project is expected to begin in 2009/2010. The project cost is approximately \$1,686,776. Questions and/or comments regarding this project may be submitted by August 26, 2009.

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